

## Proof-of-age document requirement changes during COVID-19

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During Gov. David Ige's emergency proclamation for the COVID-19 pandemic, the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) will accept copies of proof-of-age documents of members and beneficiaries. Previously only original documents were accepted.

Mailed documentation is the preferred method of submittal and delivery to accommodate social distancing requirements.

The ERS also added "Real ID" credentials (e.g., driver's licenses with "Gold Star" emblems or state identification certificates) as primary proof documents to verify the birth dates of the member or beneficiary, In addition, if a primary proof document is not available, a birth registration card or a passport card may serve as 1 of 2 acceptable secondary proof documents.

Mailed forms requiring notarized signatures will still need to be notarized unless submitted in-office and authorized by an ERS employee.

During this interim period while there are delays in renewing driver's licenses and passports, recently expired documents may serve as valid types of evidence under §6-26-12(b), Hawaii Administrative Rules. A recently expired driver's license may also serve as proof of identity for signing documents if the photograph and signature and other demographic information is consistent with the ERS application, claim or records.

For more information, contact the ERS.